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Medical Officer's Annual Report ::

For the Year ending
31st December, 1941.

JONES & GRIFFITHS, PRINTERS, CHURCH STREET.

MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF FLINT.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Borough Council of Flint.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report upon the health of the Borough during the year 1941.

For reasons of national security, and on the advice of the Chairman of the Welsh Board of Health, the statistical information (more particularly that relating to populations) has been curtailed in this Report.

Furthermore, in the interests of economy, I have made only a passing reference to Services, etc., which have undergone no change or development during the passing year and which have been reported upon in detail in previous years.

Area.—The area of the Borough remains at 6,243 statutory acres.

Financial Circumstances.—In respect of the year ended 1st April, 1941, the rateable value was £61,136, and the product of a penny rate £236.

Social Conditions.—Despite the heavy demands of industry upon the large majority of the people, and the many restrictions and curtailments affecting the community in general, I can say that the health of the residents in the area have been well maintained.

Health Officers.—These remain the same as in the previous year. With the motor ambulance kindly provided by Messrs. Courtaulds, Ltd., for the use of the Borough, there is, in addition, the motor ambulance which has been purchased by voluntary subscriptions.

Health Services (General).—I have given, in previous Reports, an outline of the several services and facilities operating in the Borough for the benefit of its community.

It is noted from the Report of the Flint Cottage Hospital & Nursing Association for the year ended 30th April, 1942, that during that year 264 patients were admitted to the hospital; of these 257 were cured or greatly relieved, and 5 were transferred to other hospitals. 9 patients remained in the hospital at the end of the year. There were 7 deaths in the hospital and 203 operations were carried out—87 of these being 'major' operations. The average duration of stay per patient was 12 days. 178 out-patients attended for consultation or treatment, involving 320 dressings. Approimately 2,000 visits were paid to patients in their homes by the District Nurse.

TABLE A.—BIRTH RATES.

Classification.	Rate per 1000 civilian population. 1941.	1940.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still births). 1941.	1940.
Live Births—				
Legitimate	17.13	19.46	—	—
Illegitimate	.85	.77	—	—
Legitimate & Illegitimate	17.98	20.23	—	—
Stillbirths—				
Legitimate	.31	1.15	16.95	53.76
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—
Legitimate & Illegitimate	.31	1.15	16.95	53.76
All Births (live and still)...	18.29	21.38	—	—

The rates for England and Wales as a whole are given as follows:—Live Birth rate 14.2; Stillbirth rate .51.

TABLE B.—DEATH RATES (General) ANALYSIS.

Cause of Death.	Death Rates per 1000 civilian population.
Other than those below specified	2.64
Heart Disease	2.25
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	.77
Pneumonia	.77
Cancer—sites other than those below specified...	.62
Tuberculosis—Respiratory System	.62
Bronchitis	.54

Cause of Death.	Death Rates per 1000 civilian population.
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum...	.47
Other Violent Causes...	.47
Road Traffic—Accidents	.31
Premature Birth	.31
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases	.31
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	.23
Other Digestive Diseases	.23
Nephritis	.23
Cancer—Buc., Cav., and Oesoph. (M), Uterus (F)	.15
Cancer of Breast	.15
Whooping Cough	.15
Appendicitis	.15
Acute Infantile Encephalitis...	.08
Suicide	.08
Other Respiratory Diseases	.08
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	.08
Diabetes	.08
Influenza	.08
Measles	.08
All Causes	11.94
All Causes (1940)	12.11
Rate for England and Wales (1941)	12.9

Death Rates (Comparisons).—Owing to the variety and magnitude of local population movements, it has not been found practicable to secure comparability of death rates by use of a comparability factor. The use of such factors have therefore been suspended by the Registrar General under present conditions.

TABLE C.—DEATH RATES (Infantile)
(i.e., aged under 1 year).

Classification.	Rate per 1000 live births. Flint Borough. 1941.	Flint Borough. 1940.	England & Wales. 1941.	England & Wales. 1940.
Legitimate	59.32	75.47	—	—
Illegimitate	4.24	—	—	—
Total—Legit. & Illegit.	63.56	75.47	59.00	55.00

TABLE D.—DEATH RATES (Childbirth).

Cause.	Rate per 1000 live births. Flint Borough. 1941.	1940.	England & Wales. 1941.	1940.
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	.48	.52
Other Puerperal Causes ...	—	3.58	1.75	1.64
All Causes	—	3.58	2.23	2.16

Water and Water Supplies.—Other than to state that the quality of the water was satisfactory, it is not considered advisable to give further information on this subject in this Report.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Constant supervision has been maintained, and there is nothing adverse to report under this head for the year under report.

Milk and Milk Supplies.—In accordance with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, careful supervision of the cowsheds and milkshops in the area was maintained throughout the year.

Meat and Other Foods.—Recent visits were paid to various shops during the year, and the following list of food for human consumption was condemned, viz.: 122lbs. of beef; 6lbs. of pork; 956 tins (or 80 gallons) of evaporated milk; 149lbs. of fruit; and 1 crate of eggs.

TABLE E.—SANITARY SUPERVISION.

Nature of Inspections made.	Notices served. Number.	Statutory.	Informal.	Result of Service of Notice Complied with.	R'maining in hand.	Prosecutions Instituted	Pending.
1. Dwelling Houses ... (General Inspections)	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Tents, Vans, Sheds ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Courts, Yards, Passages	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Privy Middens, Earth or Pail Closets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Cesspools	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. House Drainage—new and existing ...	150	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Ditches & Watercourses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Offensive Accumulations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Slaughter-houses (Private) (7) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Infectious Disease—Inquiries & Revisits	40	—		—	—	—	—
11. Miscell. Complaints ...	20	—	20	20	—	—	—

TABLE F.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(Period covered by this Table is that of 53 weeks ended 3rd January, 1942).

Disease.	No. of Cases notified.
Measles	236
Whooping Cough	76
Pneumonia	38
Diphtheria	31
Erysipelas	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2
Scarlet Fever	2
Enteric Fever	1
Total	390

Infectious Diseases (Isolation and Treatment).—This subject has been dealt with fully in past Reports.

Diphtheria (Immunisation).—The number of children inoculated against Diphtheria from its commencement up to June 30th, 1942, are—pre-school age 410 and school age 2,096, making a total of 2,506. Of these that have been immunised are—under 5 years 51.2% out of an approximate number of 820, and over 5 years to 15 years 60% out of an approximate number of 3680.

Housing.—The number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) were 21, and the total number of inspections made was 60.

TABLE G.—TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases).

Age-Groups.	Resp'tory. Males.	Non-Resp'tory. Females.	Resp'tory. Males.	Non-Resp'tory. Females.	Total Cases.
0	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	1	2
5	1	—	—	—	1
15	1	6	2	—	9
25	1	1	—	1	3
35	4	—	—	—	4
45	3	2	—	—	5
55	1	—	1	—	2
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—
Totals (all ages)	11	9	4	2	26

General.—I desire to express my thanks to you as members of the Council, and to your Officials, for valuable co-operation and assistance given to me throughout the year.

Present day conditions are, in general, by no means conducive to the well-being of the community. However, I am extremely pleased to be able to report that the health of the Borough has been maintained at a very satisfactory standard.

I remain, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Very faithfully yours,

W. A. F. TWEMLOW,

Medical Officer of Health.

33, Church Street,
Flint, July, 1942.